

Message Text

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, MOPS, CU, AO

SUBJECT: CUBAN MILITARY INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA

REFS: A. STATE 10646, B. BRASILIA 0454

1. EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE BEEN REGULARLY PASSING SITREPS, EITHER ORALLY OR IN PARAPHRASED OR EXCERPTED FORM TO PRINCIPAL CONTACTS IN FOREIGN MINISTRY DELAING WITH AFRICAN AFFAIRS, OR, IN ONE CASE, TO FOREIGN MINISTRY'S CHIEF OF OFFICE OF DOCUMENTATION (INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH). SITREPS HAVE BEEN APPRECIATED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY CONTACTS AND IN AT LEAST ONE CASE WE KNOW OF WERE READY BY FOREIGN MINISTER. SITREPS HAVE ALSO GIVEN POLOFFS USEFUL ENTREE FOR REGULAR CONSULTATIONS ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS. DEFENSE ATTACHE HAS ALSO DRAWN ON SITREPS FOR DISCUSSIONS OF SOVIET AND CUBAN PRESENCE IN ANGOLA WITH RANKING OFFICERS IN AIR FORCE GENERAL STAFF. SOME OF INFORMATION THUS PROVIDED QUITE LIKELY SERVED AS BASIS FOR RECENT STATEMENTS OF SENIOR AIR FORCE OFFICERS ON IMPLICATIONS TO BRAZILIAN SECURITY OF SOVIET PRESENCE IN ANGOLA.

2. MOST RECENT AND COMPLETE EXPRESSION OF BRAZILIAN VIEW ON ANGOLA WAS CONVEYED IN FOREIGN MINISTER SILVEIRA'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SENATOR JAVITS ON JANUARY 7 (REF B). VIEWS PROVIDED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS' DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBOFFS GENERALLY PARALLEL FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMMENTS. CHIEF OF FOREIGN MINISTRY'S AFRICA DIVISION (WEGUELIN) HAS REITERATED VIEW THAT LEADERS OF THREE COMPETING ANGOLAN FACTIONS ARE SO NATIONALISTIC

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AND COMMITTED TO PRINCIPLE OF UNITY THAT THEY WILL ULTIMATELY

SUBMERGE THEIR DIFFERENCES AND WORK OUT SOME FORM OF COALITION.
CHIEF OF AFRICA, ASIA, AND OCEANIA DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAS TOLD EMBOFFS ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT HE BELIEVES
NO ONE FACTION HAS STRENGTH AND STAYING POWER, EVEN WITH FOREIGN
ASSISTANCE, TO IMPOSE ITS WILL COMPLETELY ON OTHERS AND THAT
COALITION WILL ULTIMATELY RESULT. BOTH OFFICIALS ARE CONVINCED
THAT AFRICAN RATHER THAN FOREIGN-IMPOSED SOLUTION MUST BE
ULTIMATE OUTCOME, AND THEY TEND TO BELIEVE THAT CUBAN AND
SOVIET INFLUENCE WILL NECESSARILY DIMINISH WHEN AFRICANS
THEMSELVES REACH SOLUTION.
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